84. Malik-al-Mulk
(The Owner of Sovereignty)

"All kingdoms return to the true King. Those who understand this use temporary authority only as a trust for serving His creation."

- Nizamuddin Awliya (1238-1325 CE)
Source: "Fawa'id al-Fu'ad"
(Morals for the Heart)

Wealth and self-sufficiency will be granted to a person if he says this Beautiful Name excessively - Al Hisnul Hasin

BI'ISMIHI TA'AALA

Asmaa ul Husna

—

The Most Beautiful Names of Allah ﷻ

Ml.Moosa Kajee

AL-MAALIKﷻ (THE OWNER ﷻ)

Al-Maalik ﷻ is the owner of everything, and He ﷻ can utilize it without any prevention and hindrance.

In whichever residence one lives, regarding it to be solely his property without any partner, he should ponder: Who lived here fifty years ago and where is that person today? What was the result of his claim of ownership? Mutanabbee has so beautifully stated,

تَـمَـلَّـكَ الْاٰتِـيْ تَـمَـلُّـكَ سَـالِـبٍ وَفَـارَقَـهَـا الْـمَـاضِـيْ فِـرَاقَ سَـلِـيْـبٍ

The person who arrives becomes the owner by snatching away some-one else's property; The old owner leaves the world like one whose property has been snatched away.

Many a times, it is noticed that man proclaims for a period of even fifty years, "This is my shop. I am the owner. This is my house. I am the owner." As soon as death arrives, one's ownership immediately ceases. The names on the plaques at the entrance even changes.

INCIDENT: With the intention of exterminating the Muslims and Islaam from the surface of the world, the Quraish set out with a huge army. This battle is referred to as 'The Battle of Ahzaab (Confederates)' in the Quraan and 'The Battle of the Trench' according to historians, because Rasulullaah ﷺ, after consulting with the Sahaabah ﷺ, decided to dig a trench on the outskirts of Madinah Munawwarah, on the Ghunaim road. The digging of the trench was done by the warriors of Islaam, the Sahaabah ﷺ, who were split into groups of ten each, each group being assigned the task of digging 40 feet lengthwise. This trench was a few miles long, and extremely deep and wide, so that Ghunaim could not be crossed. The digging had to be completed in an extremely short period. The loyal Sahaabah ﷺ, with great sacrifice, were so pre-occupied with it that it was difficult for them to even fulfil their basic needs like eating food and relieving themselves. Suffering extreme hunger, they

continued discharging their duties. The work was so demanding that, even today, it would be difficult for an army despite all modern technological tools, to complete this work in such a short period. However, the strength of imaan was the motivating factor here, due to which the work was easily completed. The leader of the Ambiyaa ﷺ also worked as an ordinary individual while digging the trench. At one place, a huge boulder was found, which rendered those who were entrusted with that section incapable, despite utilizing their full energies. Salmaan Faarsee ؓ was sent to Nabee ﷺ to see what directions he would offer. Nabee ﷺ himself proceeded to that area. Taking a steel shovel in his ﷺ blessed hand, he struck the rock once, causing a portion of the rock to shatter. A flame of fire shot out, causing light to spread to a distance. Rasulullaah ﷺ said, "In this light, I was shown the palaces and buildings of Hiyarah, the kingdom of Persia. A second strike caused more light to emerge. Rasulullaah ﷺ remarked, "In this light, I was made to see the red palaces and buildings of Rome. Rasulullaah ﷺ then proceeded to strike it a third time. After light emerged, he ﷺ said, "I was shown the huge palaces of San'aa (Yemen)." Then Nabee ﷺ said, "I give you glad tidings…… Jibraaeel ﷺ informed me that my ummah will dominate and control all these lands."

When the hypocrites of Madeenah Munawwarah heard this, it afforded them a wonderful opportunity to mock and jeer at the Muslims. "Look at these people who are so engaged in digging a trench out of fear of their enemies, to the extent that they are not even conscious of their basic necessities. It is difficult for them to protect their own lives, yet they are dreaming of conquering Iraaq, Persia and Yemen. Allaah ﷻ revealed the following verses to these uninformed oppressors,

قُلِ اللَّهُمَّ مَالِكَ الْمُلْكِ تُؤْتِي الْمُلْكَ مَن تَشَاء وَتَنزِعُ الْمُلْكَ مِمَّن تَشَاء وَتُعِزُّ مَن تَشَاء وَتُذِلُّ مَن تَشَاء بِيَدِكَ الْخَيْرُ إِنَّكَ عَلَىَ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ

Say, "O Allaah! The Owner of Kingdoms, You bestow kingdom to whoever You please and snatch away kingdom from whoever You

please. You grant honour to whoever You please and disgrace whoever You please. In Your control is all good. Verily You have power over all things. (Aal-Imraan)

Allaah ﷻ in a most eloquent mode, in the form of a supplication, has made mention of His perfect power regarding the rise and fall of nations, as well as the changes in rulership. This verse indicates towards the fulfilment of the prediction of Rasulullaah ﷺ regarding the conquest of the Romans and Persians. A warning is sounded to those unaware of the vicissitudes of life, to those ignorant of the history of the rise and fall of nations, to those unacquainted with the incidents of the nations of Nuh عليه السلام, Aad and Thamud, and to the enemies of Islaam - these worshippers of outward power and strength are completely unaware that all the power and rulership in the world lies only in the control of One Mighty Being. He ﷻ controls honour and disgrace. Without doubt, He ﷻ can convert paupers into kings and leaders, and He ﷻ can snatch away rulership from great kings. It is not difficult for Him ﷻ to grant the poor diggers of a trench the rulership of Syriaa, Iraaq and Yemen tomorrow.

At times, while explaining the great status and the quality of rulership which belongs to Allaah ﷻ, the Quraan Shareef has referred to Allaah ﷻ as Al-Maalik. After creating everything, He ﷻ did not leave it unfettered. Everything is encompassed by His power. Just as He ﷻ is the creator, He ﷻ is also the owner. If the gun's barrel is released on the person who himself manufactured it, then this gun will be the cause of his injury or impending death. He cannot claim, "This is my gun. I manufactured it. How can it be utilized to cause harm to me?"

Yes, he is the manufacturer of the gun. However he does not have full control over it. Just as Allaah ﷻ is the creator, He ﷻ is the controller. He ﷻ has full power over all of this. Just as man is needy of Allaah for emerging from non-existence into existence, he is also needy of Divine commands for utilizing these bounties. Nothing will happen according

to man's desires, but all will happen according to what Allaah ﷻ wishes. Man is totally dependent on Allaah ﷻ in every stage of his life: his birth, his living and receiving benefit and harm. This has been explained in the following verse:

وَاتَّخَذُوا مِن دُونِهِ آلِهَةً لَّا يَخْلُقُونَ شَيْئًا وَهُمْ يُخْلَقُونَ وَلَا يَمْلِكُونَ لِأَنفُسِهِمْ ضَرًّا وَلَا نَفْعًا وَلَا يَمْلِكُونَ مَوْتًا وَلَا حَيَاةً وَلَا نُشُورًا

Besides Him they adopt deities who cannot create anything, but have themselves being created. They have no power to effect any harm nor any benefit to themselves, and do not have any power over life, death or resurrection. (Furqaan)

Ponder: When we came into this world, we came empty-handed. We owned no land, house, garden, money or even a small stick in our hands. When we leave this world, we will not take with us our shops, our homes, our money, in fact, even the clothing on our body will be removed.

When we live in this world, we become temporary owners of homes, shops and countless other objects. Have we come with these things? Will we leave with these things?

If, in actual fact, we were the real owners, we would have taken these things with us and would never have left them behind for others. If we were the actual owners, we would have brought them into this world. This shows that the true Owner is another Being. It neither belongs to our fathers or forefathers, nor is it our children's' or grandchildren's'. The actual and true Owner was Him ﷻ, is Him ﷻ and will always be Him ﷻ.